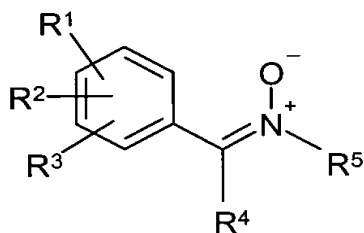


CLAIMS MARKED TO SHOW AMENDMENTS

45. (Amended) A method for ameliorating a cause [preventing the onset] of a neurodegenerative disease in a patient at risk for developing the neurodegenerative disease which method comprises administering to said patient a pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an effective neurodegenerative disease-cause- ameliorating [preventing] amount of a compound of formula I:



I

wherein

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of alkoxy, alkaryloxy, alkycycloalkoxy, aryloxy, and cycloalkoxy;

R² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkoxy, alkycycloalkoxy, cycloalkoxy and halogen, or when R¹ and R² are attached to adjacent carbon atoms, R¹ and R² may be joined together to form an alkylendioxy group;

R³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkoxy, alkycycloalkoxy, cycloalkoxy and halogen;

R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of alkyl having at least 3 carbon atoms, substituted alkyl having at least 3 carbon atoms and cycloalkyl;

provided that:

(i) when R² and R³ are independently hydrogen or methoxy, R¹ is not methoxy;

(ii) when R², R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen and R⁵ is *tert*-butyl, then R¹ is not 4-*n*-butoxy, 4-*n*-pentyloxy or 4-*n*-hexyloxy;

(iii) when R², R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen and R⁵ is isopropyl, then R¹ is not 4-ethoxy;

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(iv) when R¹ and R² are joined together to form a 3,4-methylenedioxy group and R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen, then R⁵ is not isopropyl or *tert*-butyl;

(v) when R², R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen and R⁵ is 1-hydroxy-2-methylprop-2-yl, then R¹ is not 2-ethoxy;

(vi) when R¹ is 4-methoxy, R² is 3-ethoxy, and R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen, then R⁵ is not 2,2-dimethylbut-3-yl or 1-hydroxy-2-methylprop-2-yl; and

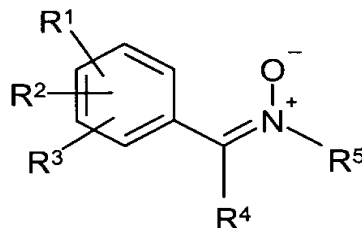
(vii) when R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen and R⁵ is *tert*-butyl, then R¹ is not 4-methoxy when R² is 2-fluoro, and R¹ is not 2-methoxy when R² is 4-fluoro.

46. (Amended) The method according to Claim [44 or] 45 wherein the neurodegenerative disease is Alzheimer's disease.

47. (Amended) The method according to Claim [44 or] 45 wherein the neurodegenerative disease is Parkinson's disease.

48. (Amended) The method according to Claim [44 or] 45 wherein the neurodegenerative disease is HIV dementia.

50. (Amended) A method for ameliorating a cause [preventing the onset] of an autoimmune disease in a patient at risk for developing the autoimmune disease which method comprises administering to said patient a pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an effective autoimmune disease cause-ameliorating [preventing] amount of a compound of formula I:



I

wherein

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of alkoxy, alkaryloxy, alkycycloalkoxy, aryloxy, and cycloalkoxy;

R² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkoxy, alkycycloalkoxy, cycloalkoxy and halogen, or when R¹ and R² are attached to adjacent carbon atoms, R¹ and R² may be joined together to form an alkylenedioxy group;

R³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkoxy, alkycycloalkoxy, cycloalkoxy and halogen;

R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of alkyl having at least 3 carbon atoms, substituted alkyl having at least 3 carbon atoms and cycloalkyl;

provided that:

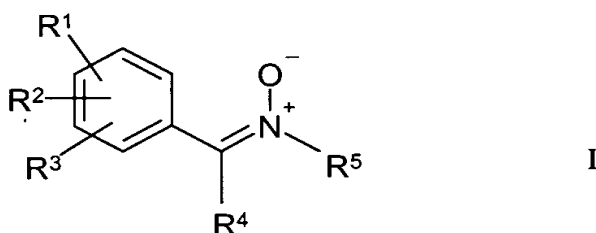
- (i) when R² and R³ are independently hydrogen or methoxy, R¹ is not methoxy;
- (ii) when R², R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen and R⁵ is *tert*-butyl, then R¹ is not 4-*n*-butoxy, 4-*n*-pentyloxy or 4-*n*-hexyloxy;
- (iii) when R², R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen and R⁵ is isopropyl, then R¹ is not 4-ethoxy;
- (iv) when R¹ and R² are joined together to form a 3,4-methylenedioxy group and R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen, then R⁵ is not isopropyl or *tert*-butyl;
- (v) when R², R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen and R⁵ is 1-hydroxy-2-methylprop-2-yl, then R¹ is not 2-ethoxy;
- (vi) when R¹ is 4-methoxy, R² is 3-ethoxy, and R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen, then R⁵ is not 2,2-dimethylbut-3-yl or 1-hydroxy-2-methylprop-2-yl; and
- (vii) when R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen and R⁵ is *tert*-butyl, then R¹ is not 4-methoxy when R² is 2-fluoro, and R¹ is not 2-methoxy when R² is 4-fluoro.

51. (Amended) The method according to Claim [49 or] 50 wherein the autoimmune disease is systemic lupus.

52. (Amended) The method according to Claim [49 or] 50 wherein the autoimmune disease is multiple sclerosis.

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54. (Amended) A method for ameliorating a cause [preventing the onset] of an inflammatory disease in a patient at risk for developing the inflammatory disease which method comprises administering to said patient a pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an effective inflammatory disease-~~cause-~~ameliorating [preventing] amount of a compound of formula I:



wherein

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of alkoxy, alkaryloxy, alkycycloalkoxy, aryloxy, and cycloalkoxy;

R² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkoxy, alkycycloalkoxy, cycloalkoxy and halogen, or when R¹ and R² are attached to adjacent carbon atoms, R¹ and R² may be joined together to form an alkylendioxy group;

R³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkoxy, alkycycloalkoxy, cycloalkoxy and halogen;

R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of alkyl having at least 3 carbon atoms, substituted alkyl having at least 3 carbon atoms and cycloalkyl;

provided that:

(i) when R² and R³ are independently hydrogen or methoxy, R¹ is not methoxy;

(ii) when R², R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen and R⁵ is *tert*-butyl, then R¹ is not 4-*n*-butoxy, 4-*n*-pentyloxy or 4-*n*-hexyloxy;

(iii) when R², R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen and R⁵ is isopropyl, then R¹ is not 4-ethoxy;

(iv) when R¹ and R² are joined together to form a 3,4-methylenedioxy group and R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen, then R⁵ is not isopropyl or *tert*-butyl;

(v) when R², R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen and R⁵ is 1-hydroxy-2-methylprop-2-yl, then R¹ is not 2-ethoxy;

(vi) when R¹ is 4-methoxy, R² is 3-ethoxy, and R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen, then R⁵ is not 2,2-dimethylbut-3-yl or 1-hydroxy-2-methylprop-2-yl; and

(vii) when R³ and R⁴ are hydrogen and R⁵ is *tert*-butyl, then R¹ is not 4-methoxy when R² is 2-fluoro, and R¹ is not 2-methoxy when R² is 4-fluoro.

55. (Amended) The method according to Claim [53 or] 54 wherein the inflammatory disease is rheumatoid arthritis.

56. (Amended) The method according to Claim [53 or] 54 wherein the inflammatory disease is septic shock.

57. (Amended) The method according to Claim [53 or] 54 wherein the inflammatory disease is erythema nodosum leprosy.

58. (Amended) The method according to Claim [53 or] 54 wherein the inflammatory disease is septicemia.

59. (Amended) The method according to Claim [53 or] 54 wherein the inflammatory disease is uveitis.

60. (Amended) The method according to Claim [53 or] 54 wherein the inflammatory disease is adult respiratory distress syndrome.

61. (Amended) The method according to Claim [53 or] 54 wherein the inflammatory disease is inflammatory bowel disease.

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REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the above amendments be entered prior to examination of this application on the merits and that the claims in this application be allowed.

Claims 1-44, 49, and 53 are being canceled. Accordingly, Claims 45-48, 50-52 and 54-61 are now pending in this application.

1. Summary of the Amendments

Claim 1-44, 49 and 53 have been canceled since these claims were previously allowed in the grandparent application, U.S. Serial No. 09/172,763. Additionally, Claims 46-48, 51, 52, 55-61 have been amended to delete their dependency on now canceled claims.

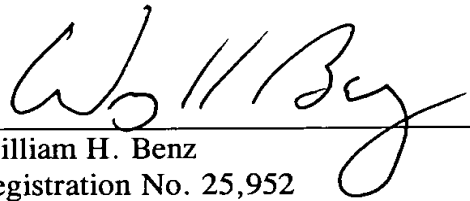
All of the claims have been amended to reite that they relate to "ameliorating a cause of a disease" rather than to "preventing the disease". The Examples in this application depict a number of settings in which a cause of a disease is ameliorated to the extent that evidence of the causes action is not detected.

Entry of these amendments and examination of this application on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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